

*Celebration of the Life of  
Callie Irene Williams Wells Younger  
August 22, 1903 to October 8, 2006*



*October 13, 2006*

*11:00 am*

*Congdon Street Baptist Church  
17 Congdon Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02906*

*The Reverend Dr. David D. Mitchell, Pastor*

## Callie Irene Williams Wells Younger

Callie Irene Williams Wells Younger was born in Goode, Virginia on August 22, 1903. She was one of four daughters born to Scotland Chester Williams and Mary Virginia (Perkins) Williams. She spent her early childhood in Goode and was baptized at the Bethel Grove Baptist Church in 1912. In the early 1920's she married Herman T. Wells and from this union one son was born; Herman T. Wells Jr. The family moved to Lynchburg Virginia and soon after Callie and her son moved to Streator, Illinois where she joined the Second Baptist Church.

In 1938 Callie and her son moved to Providence, Rhode Island and joined Congdon Street Baptist Church where she has been a member for 68 years. She served on a number of committees and held different offices in the various church groups. In the 1970s she was a member of the Building Council which had oversight of the major church renovations. Her love for the church led her to give the beautiful pulpit bible that was given in memory of her late husband, William A. Younger, choir director of Congdon Street for many years. She also served as the treasurer of the Sunday school for 25 years, a member of the missionary society, lend-a-hand club, and the senior choir. She started the church nursery; she was a founding member of the Flower Guild which was established in 1948 , and she was the first female elected to serve on the Trustee board.

Callie began her career as a pastry cook at the YMCA in downtown Providence where she offered to cook for one day without pay in exchange for the job if they liked her work. She got the job and worked there for three years. She also worked at the Crown Hotel, Miss Dutton's Tea Room, and the Wheeler School. She retired in 1979. When school was out for the summer she cooked at camps in New Hampshire and Vermont. Her last five years after retirement she worked as a baker and chef at the Menemsha Inn on Martha's Vineyard. She was still cooking for family and friends at the age of 102.

Callie has been recognized for her many volunteer services. She volunteered over 2000 hours at Rhode Island Hospital. Her volunteer services also included the Rhode Island Philharmonic orchestra, Volunteers in Action's RSVP program and St Martin de Pours. On her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday she was highlighted on the Willard Scott segment of the "Today show on NBC". Callie also joined other centenarians at a special breakfast with the Governor of Rhode Island.

Callie leaves a son Herman Thomas “Stretch” Wells Jr. and his wife Lois of Boston, Mass, a granddaughter and grandson-in law, Dr. Marcia Irene Wells Avery and Reverend Donald Avery of Natchitoches, Louisiana; a grandson, Darrell Thomas Wells of Boston, Mass; four great-grandchildren (Xavier, Nasheta, Saadiq, and Aliya), and four great great-grandchildren (Xavier, Dana,, Deon, and Monet). She also leaves three beloved step-grandchildren (Linnear Hopkins Horne, Audrey Hopkins Brown, and Billy Hopkins) other Williams family relatives and many many friends. One of her favorite sayings:

If a task is first begun  
Never leave it till it’s done  
Be the labor great or small  
Do it well, or not at all (Author unknown).

She lived well and loved well; and all whose lives she touched are so richly blessed because of her wonderful example of love, unshakable faith, and her firm belief in God. On behalf of the family, we wish to thank you for all of your many and varied expressions of love and tributes. Mother, Mom, Grandma, Cousin Callie, Aunt Callie; Mom Younger; Mrs. Younger; Miss Callie; we will miss you and we will never forget you. May you rest in the peace you so richly deserve! What has she to fear? What has she to dread, leaning on His everlasting arm? She has Blessed Peace with her Lord so near leaning on His ever lasting arms. Amen and Amen!

Contributions in memory of Callie Irene Williams Wells Younger should be sent to the Flower Guild Congdon Street Baptist Church 17 Congdon Street Providence, Rhode Island 02906.

